

*In re Application: Vick
Serial No. 10/767,579
Filed January 29, 2004
Amendment and Response
Page 3 of 9*

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-34 (Previously Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) A device for tightening a strap around freight, comprising:

a. a body capable of being rotated and comprising:

i. a means for holding a first end of a strap; and

ii. a first head positioned at a first end of the body for receiving a

torsion arm; and

b. a clamp coupled to the body for holding a second end of the strap and comprising:

i. at least two clamp arms, wherein at least one arm is rotatably coupled to the clamp; and

ii. a cam rotatably coupled to the clamp for securing the at least two clamp arms at a second end.

36. (Original) The device of claim 35, wherein the means for holding a strap comprises a slot.

37. (Newly Cancelled) The device of claim 35, further comprising a cam rotatably coupled to the clamp for securing the at least two clamp arms at a second end.

*In re Application: Vick
Serial No. 10/767,579
Filed January 29, 2004
Amendment and Response
Page 4 of 9*

38. (Original) The device of claim 37, further comprising a locking arm coupled to the cam for attaching the cam to the clamp arm.

Claims 39-40 (Previously Cancelled)

41. (Newly Added) The device of claim 35, wherein the torsion arm is capable of rotating the body.

42. (Newly Added) The device of claim 35, wherein the torsion arm is adapted to connect to the first head.

43. (Newly Added) The device of claim 35, wherein the torsion arm is capable of being removed from the first head.

44. (Newly Added) The device of claim 35, wherein the torsion arm comprises at least one of the following: a wrench, a ratchet, a bar stock, or integrated portion of the body.

45. (Newly Added) A method for tightening a strap for securing freight, comprising:

providing a tightening device, comprising

a body capable of being rotated and comprising:

a means for holding a first end of a strap; and

a first head positioned at a first end of the body for receiving a

torsion arm; and

a clamp coupled to the body for holding a second end of the strap and

comprising:

at least two clamp arms, wherein at least one arm is rotatably

coupled to the clamp; and

*In re Application: Vick
Serial No. 10/767,579
Filed January 29, 2004
Amendment and Response
Page 5 of 9*

a cam rotatably coupled to the clamp for securing the at least two clamp arms at a second end;

holding a first end of a strap with the means for holding a first end of a strap;

securing a portion of the strap with the clamp; and

rotating the body, thereby increasing tension on the strap.

46. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein securing a portion of the strap with the clamp comprises rotating the cam until the two clamp arms contact the strap.

47. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein rotating the body comprises connecting a torsion arm to the first head, and applying a force to the torsion arm.

48. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein the means for holding a strap comprises a slot.

49. (Newly Added) The method of claim 48, wherein holding a first end of a strap with the means for holding a first end of a strap comprises inserting the strap into the slot.

50. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, further comprising a locking arm coupled to the cam for attaching the cam to the clamp arm.

51. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein the torsion arm is capable of rotating the body.

*In re Application: Vick
Serial No. 10/767,579
Filed January 29, 2004
Amendment and Response
Page 6 of 9*

52. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein the torsion arm is adapted to connect to the first head.

53. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein the torsion arm is capable of being removed from the first head.

54. (Newly Added) The method of claim 45, wherein the torsion arm comprises at least one of the following: a wrench, a ratchet, a bar stock, or integrated portion of the body.